

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1 and 2 (canceled).

Claim 3 (previously presented): A stretching apparatus, comprising:

a base;

a back support mounted to the base;

at least one leg support pivotally mounted to the base, the leg support providing a single rigid surface for supporting an entire leg;

a sliding foot pedal mechanism, comprising:

a first bracket slidably mounted along the leg support;

a foot pedal pivotally mounted to the first bracket;

a fastener linking a free end of the foot pedal to the first bracket, wherein an inclination of the foot pedal is varied by adjusting the fastener.

Claim 4 (original): The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the fastener is a turnbuckle.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the first bracket defines a hole and the leg support defines a plurality of holes along its length, the first bracket being secured to a position along the leg support by a pin inserted in the hole of the first bracket and one of the holes of the leg support.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the first bracket further (1) comprises a heel cushion upon which the user's heel rests and (2) defines slots for receiving a strap, the strap securing a user's heel to the leg support, thereby pushing a user's foot against the foot pedal.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A stretching apparatus, comprising:

a base;

a back support mounted to the base;

at least one leg support pivotally mounted to the base;

a sliding foot pedal mechanism, comprising:

a first bracket slidably mounted along the leg support;

a foot pedal pivotally mounted to the first bracket;

a fastener linking a free end of the foot pedal to the first bracket, wherein an inclination of the foot pedal is varied by adjusting the fastener; [[.]]

a cord having:

a first end secured to the a free end of the leg support; and

a second end fed through a guide hole in the back support and secured to a fixture mounted on the back support, wherein an inclination of the leg support is fixed by the cord.

Claim 8 (original): The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the fixture is selected from the group consisting of a cam-cleat and a cleat.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the fixture is a cam-cleat, the apparatus further comprising a cleat for tying up extra length of the cord.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the back support is pivotally mounted to the base.

Claim 11 (previously presented): A stretching apparatus, comprising:

a base;

at least one leg support pivotally mounted to the base;

a foot pedal positioned at a free end of the leg support;

a sliding seat mechanism, comprising:

- a first bracket slidably mounted to the base;
- a seat mounted to the first bracket; and
- a back support pivotally mounted to the first bracket.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 11, wherein:

the base further comprises at least a rail defining a plurality of holes along its length;

the back support further comprises at least one arm bracket and at least one arm, the arm having (1) a first end pivotally mounted to the arm bracket and (2) a second end secured with a pin to one of the holes in the rail.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the back support comprises slots along two edges to accommodate straps for stabilizing the user.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A stretching apparatus, comprising:

a base;

a back support mounted to the base;

at least one leg support pivotally mounted to the base, the leg support defining a plurality of holes along its length;

a foot pedal positioned at a free end of the leg support; and

a sliding knee mechanism, comprising:

- a first bracket slidably mounted along the leg support, the first bracket defining slots for receiving a strap and a hole for receiving a pin, wherein the first bracket is

secured to a position along the leg support by the pin inserted in the hole of the first bracket and one of the holes of the leg support;

a knee cushion mounted to the first bracket, wherein the strap ~~securing~~ secures a user's knee to the leg support.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising height-adjustable armrests mounted to the first bracket.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising a handle on the back support, wherein the handle is used to transport the apparatus when the leg support and the back support are collapsed onto the base.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising:

[[a]] the seat having at least one armrest;

a cord having:

a first end secured to ~~the~~ a free end of the leg support; and

a second end fed through a guide hole in the back support, routed down a backside of back support, exited through a second guide hole, and secured to a fixture mounted on the armrest;

wherein an inclination of the leg support is fixed by the cord.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising:

a first strap securing a user's leg to the leg support; and

a second strap securing a user's heel to the leg support, thereby pushing a user's foot against the foot pedal.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising at least one wheel attached to the base, wherein the apparatus is transported by rolling the apparatus on the wheel.

Claim 20 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the first bracket defines a hole and the base defines a plurality of holes along its length, the first bracket being secured to a position along the leg support base by a pin inserted in the hole of the first bracket and one of the holes of the leg support base.

Claim 21 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 3, further comprising:

a second bracket slidably mounted along the leg support, the second bracket defining slots for receiving a strap;

a knee cushion mounted to the second bracket, wherein the strap ~~securing~~ secures a user's knee to the leg support.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 21, further comprising:

a third bracket slidably mounted to the base, wherein the back support is pivotally mounted to the third bracket; and

a seat mounted to the third bracket.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the back support comprises slots along two edges to accommodate straps for stabilizing the user.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 23, further comprising:

a handle on the back support;

at least one wheel attached to the base, wherein the handle and the wheel are used to transport the apparatus when the leg support and the back support are collapsed onto the base.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising:

a second bracket slidably mounted along the leg support, the second bracket defining slots for receiving a strap,

a heel cushion mounted to the second bracket upon which the user's heel rests;

a foot pedal pivotally mounted to the second bracket;

a fastener linking a free end of the foot pedal to the second bracket, wherein an inclination of the foot pedal is varied by adjusting the fastener and the strap secures a user's heel to the leg support, thereby pushing a user's foot against the foot pedal.

Claim 26 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising:

a cord having:

a first end secured to ~~the~~ a free end of the leg support; and

a second end fed through a guide hole in the back support and secured to a fixture mounted on the back support;

wherein an inclination of the leg support is fixed by the cord.

Claim 27 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 14, further comprising:

a cord having:

a first end secured to ~~the~~ a free end of the leg support; and

a second end fed through a guide hole in the back support and secured to a fixture mounted on the back support;

wherein an inclination of the leg support is fixed by the cord.

Claim 28 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the back support is pivotally mounted to the base.

Claim 29 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 28, further comprising:

a handle on the back support;

at least one wheel attached to the base, wherein the handle and the wheel are used to transport the apparatus when the leg support and the back support are collapsed onto the base.